1. SPS

Executive, 1988-89

President	Sridar Narayanan
V.P. Academic	Phillipe Bergeron
V.P. Social Affairs	Roch Comeau
V.P. Co-op	Peter Oram
Treasurer	Simon Choisnet

Committee Appointments

Curriculum Committee	Phillipe Bergeron
Co-op Committee (Dep't)	Peter Oram
Co-op (University Committees)	
Executive Board Member:	Mark Bourcier
Student Rep. - 2nd Year:	Robert Bonchune
Student Rep. - 1st Year	Angela Pladgemann

2. GRADUATE STUDENTS

Ufuk Orhun was recently elected as graduate student representative to the department.

3. CHINESE SCHOLAR

Mr. Guo Kun has been appointed Visiting Scholar for a twelve month period beginning Nov. 13, 1988 for one year. He is working with Dr. S. K. Misra.

4. Supplemental Exams

At the recent meeting of the chairs, A&S, most chairs felt that supplemental exams should be abolished. (Students who could not take the exams because of valid reasons would still be permitted special exams. If anyone wishes to discuss this issue, please inform Dr. C. S. Kalman. If there is concern about this issue in the department a meeting will be held before the next meeting of the chairs A&S (Jan. 25, 1989).

5. Marianopolis

A section of Physics 101 (Corresponds to Phys 204 at Concordia) in Winter session 1989 will use the textbook being prepared by Dr. C. S. Kalman as the sole text. West Publishing Company will pay the cost of xeroxing sufficient copies for use in this section.

6. Recruiting

Mr. S. Markiza is in the process of meeting classes at Cegeps. He has already visited five classes at Marianopolis and as a consequence several students have indicated that they will be coming to Concordia . As of Nov. 11, the admission office had received 37 applications for physics 1st choice and had admitted 18. One in physics-marketing who has been admitted. 7 part-time first choice, none admitted, three full-time 2nd or 3rd choice, none admitted one P/T 2nd choice admitted, one P/T Phys/marketing not admitted. Mr. Markiza will be contacting all those admitted.

7. Fundraising

Plans are to have a one page feature on the department in the Concordia Alumnae Magazine with a tearslip for those interested in receiving the departmental alumnae newsletter.

8. Teaching Tips (Courtesy of Dr. N. W. Eddy)

Let the students know the value of your course. Give them a good reason for wanting to learn as much as they can - irrespective of whatever hurdles they may encounter. If the material is difficult because of the math required, try to present the necessary math techniques as a gift from you to them. Tell the class how valuable it is to know these techniques, no matter what their individual interests are.

Whenever you can find a way to (a) improve job skills for those students who do not intend to proceed to a PhD, or (b) provide potential graduate students with useful skills, by all means point this out. If it applies to your course, stress computer usage. Both theoretical and experimental students need good skills in Fortran. These must be continually used, or they quickly become rusty. For example, in determining maxima in the probability distribution of Planck's black body radiation, students encounter transcendental equations such as $e^{-x} = 1 - x/5$. This is an ideal problem for students to use a computer. Then later in the finite square well problem, the computer program is in place to solve the transcendental equation there.

In Atomic Physics, students seem pleased to add new integration techniques to their bag of skills. So rather than accept a text book's statement like "the following integral may be found in tables...", we do it in class. Now I don't need to remember to put the integral in an exam question. I have always been bored by probability and statistical mathematics. However, students seem pleased to learn about statistical distributions when you explain how fundamental these are to an understanding of quantum mechanics, statistical mechanics, laser theory, spectroscopy, etc. In this context they have a lot of fun with questions like "why does the product of the most probable wavelength and most probable frequency not equal the speed of light?"

9. Gathering at Dr. Kipling's

Many faculty members and Ms. G. Thompson gathered for a delightful cocktail party given by Joan and Arlin Kipling. Everyone had a wonderful time. Many of those present were heard to mention that this type of event must be repeated in the near future. A hearty thank you to Joan and Arlin.